

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



SHEEP

SCRAPIE

ALL sheep for EXHIBITION within California require Official Identification (ID)

ALL sheep for EXHIBITION from other states require Official ID, Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), and Livestock Entry Permit into California

Interstate Livestock Entry Permit:

A separate permit from the Animal Health Branch, valid for 15 days prior to entry into California, is required for all sheep.

Name, Physical Address and Telephone number required

Exemption:

Sheep less than 18 months of age in slaughter channels that have not lambed, aborted or are pregnant

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection:

A CVI is required for all sexually intact breeding sheep imported into California AND the owner shall include the following phrase on the certificate: "The animals are not scrapie-positive, scrapie suspect, or from a "non-compliant flock" (reference: Code of Federal Regulations).

Exemptions:

- 1) Sheep less than 18 months of age in slaughter channels that have not lambed, aborted or are pregnant
- 2) Sheep moving for grazing without change of ownership
- 3) Sheep over 18 months of age in slaughter channels
- 4) Low risk commercial sheep (as defined by the Federal Code of Regulations):

Requirements instead of CVI for low risk commercial sheep:

- A) A written statement containing the following phrase issued by the accredited veterinarian at the point where the animals originated, and dated within 12 months of the date of movement. "To the best of my knowledge, the flock has no known risk factor for or exposure to scrapie. I have inspected the flock and it does not contain any animal exhibiting signs of scrapie, female blackfaced sheep or female blackfaced cross sheep that were not born in the flock." The statement must include the owner's name, address and the official eartags, official tattoos, or premises identification number and a drawing of the owner's registered brand or ear notch pattern if applicable; and.
- B) A written statement containing the following phrase by the owner within 30 days of the date of movement: "The animals were born in the flock and the flock does not contain any animal showing signs of scrapie. To the best of my knowledge, the flock has no risk factors for or exposure to scrapie, and the flock has never contained any animal diagnosed as having scrapie, any female blackfaced sheep or any female blackface crossed sheep that were not born in the flock."

Official Identification:

Required for all sheep imported into California

Exemptions

- 1) Sheep less than 18 months of age in slaughter channels that have not lambed, aborted, or are pregnant;
- 2) Castrated sheep less than 18 months of age that are not for exhibition
- 3) Sheep moving for grazing without change of ownership

All sheep imported for exhibition require:

- 1) Interstate Livestock Entry Permit issued by California Department of Food and Agriculture
 - issued after CVI is issued
 - permit is valid for 15 days from date of issue
 - to obtain a permit, contact California Department of Food and Agriculture:
(916) 651-6278
- 2) Certificate of Veterinary Inspection
- 3) Official ID.

BRUCELLA OVIS:

Rams imported into California require:

- 1) Negative Brucella ovis test within 30 days before entry into CA or be from a Brucella ovis free flock
- 2) Test eligible age is 6 months old
- 3) Official ID
- 4) CVI must include: Official ID number, test results, name of the approved laboratory, date of the test, or the “Brucella ovis free flock number” must be recorded on the form
- 5) Rams moving for grazing purposes without change of ownership are exempt.

*****Official ID**

- 1) An identification ear tag approved by the USDA and CDFA as sufficiently tamper-resistant for the intended use and providing unique identification for each animal.
- 2) Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program (SFCP) Identification ear tags, tattoos or electronic ID (Owner must carry functioning reader).

Official ID ear tags, Premises ID, and SFCP numbers can be obtained through USDA at:
(916) 857-6170.

Change of ownership of all sheep within California require official ID*Exemptions:*

- 1) Animals less than 18 months of age in slaughter channels that have not lambed, aborted or are pregnant
- 3) Castrated animals less than 18 months of age that are not for exhibition

Links:

Eradicate Scrapie: National Scrapie Education Initiative

www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/naahps/scrapie

USDA Veterinary Services Scrapie Program

<http://animalagriculture.org/scrapie/Scrapie.htm>

California Department of Food and Agriculture Regulations

www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/scrapie_info.htm#AlertLoop